



ILLINOIS STUDENT SENATE

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

AGENDA

General Meeting

Illini Union Pine Lounge

9/10/2014

7:00PM

I. Call to Order

II. Swearing in of New Senators

III. Approval of the Minutes

IV. Public Comment

V. Member Comment

VI. Officer Announcements

VII. Executive Orders

a. EXO.2015.09 Committee Appointments 3

b. EXO.2015.10 Executive Staff Appointments 3

VIII. Resolutions for Action

IX. Resolutions for Information

X. Reports for Information

XI. Adjournment



ILLINOIS STUDENT SENATE

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

**ILLINOIS STUDENT SENATE
ELVENEVENTH ASSEMBLY
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

Minutes of the Illinois Student Senate

A meeting of the Illinois Student Senate was held on Wednesday, September 3, 2014 at 7:00PM Central Time in the Pine Lounge of the Illini Union.

Call to Order

President Dickey called the meeting to order at 7:02PM

Executive Officers Present:

Matt Hill, Mitch Dickey, Sarah Hochman

Staff Present:

Sam Awad, Dean Gozum, Maggie Klinge, Rebecca Taylor

Quorum Call

At 7:02 PM, President Dickey called for quorum. Quorum was established. New senators approach the front to be sworn in.

Approval of the Minutes

The minutes are approved.

19 Chancellor Wise and Provost Ilesanmi Adesida address the body. The chancellor speaks of how
20 she is impressed with the Illinois Student Senate. She is appreciative of the students that are
21 involved with the senate. It shows that students care about their education. This is the first time
22 that the Provost and she have been able to attend such an early meeting in the year. She wants to
23 provide a personalized education for the students on this campus, and she wants students who
24 will become leaders. She encourages the students to have a transformative experience at the
25 University. They are working on the cultural centers, so that different ethnic groups will have
26 places to share ideas and come together. They have also thought about a multicultural center, but
27 that has not been put into place yet. She speaks about the change in classroom settings becoming
28 more online. The chancellor and the provost believe in creating a diverse environment. They care
29 less about numbers and more about the interactions and experiences that students have. The
30 university has students from all 50 states and over 100 countries. Provost Adesida addresses the
31 body. He has been on this campus for 27 years, and he explains to the body about why he stayed.
32 He talks about how the soil is fertile. He wants student's to grow their minds. The job of the
33 University of Illinois is to provide a learning environment, and to foster a good experience for
34 the students on campus. He speaks about the increasing graduation rate. He states that if you
35 want to be number one, you have to act like it. He speaks about how they are committed, and he
36 wants students and faculty to work together. The body is opened up to a 15 minute question.
37 Vice President External Hill thanks them for coming to discuss issues. He speaks about how it is
38 a privilege for the student body to hear them speak. He asks about other initiatives or ideas that
39 have been planned or that are upcoming this year. Chancellor Wise addresses the body. She
40 speaks about Inclusive Illinois. She informs the body that there are going to be speakers

1 throughout the year to bring out the importance of diversity and inclusion. She knows that this is
2 not enough but it is a start. Provost Adesida talks about how important diversity is and creating a
3 platform for excellence. Senator Bass asks what attempts the university has taken to assimilate
4 the new students. Chancellor Wise speaks about receptions being held in Shanghai so that
5 international students can learn more about the university. This is the first time they have been
6 abroad to greet the students. They arranged a bus from the Chicago airports to Champaign for
7 foreign students arriving for school. There were also students to welcome the international
8 students with the transition. Provost Adesida addresses the body. He speaks about the
9 investments that are being made to create organizations for international students. He speaks of
10 his own experience as an international student attending Berkeley from Nigeria. They are
11 looking at it very actively. Chancellor Wise speaks about the history of Chief Illiniwek. She
12 explains that as a school we need to put it in our past but still remember the mascot. Chancellor
13 Wise visited the Chief in Peoria, Oklahoma. Both the chancellor and the Chief want members of
14 the Peoria tribe to attend the University of Illinois so that they can receive an education. Senator
15 Lewis asks them what their five year goal is and what other countries they have reached out to.
16 Chancellor Wise says they opened an office in Shanghai, and there are plans for Deli. She
17 explains they are not recruiting any abroad students, and that students are coming to them
18 because of the institution's reputation. Their first priority is within the nation. They do not plan
19 to open other campuses abroad. Senator Chris asks about budgets and budgets cuts and asks
20 about increased tuition. Provost Adesida states there is going to be an increase in tuition within
21 5-6%. Although, each student has a 4 year guarantee. They are working diligently to raise money
22 for scholarships. One of the main reasons for a student to not come to the university is because of
23 cost. Chancellor Wise talks about the Professor Salaita situation when the Board of Trustees
24 cancelled his appointment. Chancellor Wise speaks about her letter to him, and that she wrote to
25 tell him that his appointment was unlikely to happen. There has been a lot of criticism about this.
26 Her decision was not based on losing donors. Question session is over.
27

28 **Public Comment**

29 Shawn Gordon addresses the body. He begins the public's debate on Professor Salaita. He thinks
30 we should be direct about what can and cannot be said. He believes the student's need to respect
31 confidentially, but that the students need to be more informed. He shares that he thinks that the
32 way it is portrayed in the media, that they decided not to go forward because the Board of
33 Trustees was going to say no. Stephanie Skora addresses the body. She speaks about the turning
34 point in the Board of Trustees. She believes that we as students have a right to decide who
35 teaches us. She thinks that The Board of Trustees made a political decision, and that was wrong
36 on their part. She states that we should be able to learn in peace, and have a say in who teaches
37 us. She thinks that the student body needs to take a look at how our university is run. Alicia
38 Kozma speaks to the body. She reads a passage for Chancellor Wise. It talks about freedom of
39 speech, and all of the boycotts that are occurring. She says that Chancellor Wise is representing
40 our student body, and that she (Chancellor Wise) has a lack of faith in the student body. She
41 knows that UIUC students are capable, and she does not think that we have academic freedom at
42 this point. Josh Cooper addresses the body. He thanks everyone for letting him speak. He stands
43 in support of Chancellor Wise's decision and letter. He says that he is grateful for Chancellor
44 Wise and her leadership at this institution. This is an issue about hate speech, not politics. The



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1 actions of Steven Salaita go against the values of Inclusive Illinois. He believes that the
2 Chancellor made the right decision in support of our values at the university. He thanks
3 Chancellor Wise for everything she has done to build diversity on our campus. Ryan Brown
4 addresses the body. He thanks Chancellor Wise for her leadership. He states that this amazing
5 university should only hire amazing people. He thinks Salaita is unprofessional and does not
6 belong at this world class university. Rico Chenyek addresses the body. He speaks on behalf of
7 the Jewish students, and that they do not feel unsafe or disrespected from Salaita. He feels that
8 the university has minimized their voices on campus. He insists that it is everyone's right to
9 speak about what is happening in Palestine with anger and emotion. This campus has been
10 denied a professor who they could have learned from. They want the decision reversed and
11 Professor Salaita to be reinstated. He says that being able to speak out freely is a health issue. He
12 thinks it is silly that there are national boycotts happening against this university. Hannah
13 Schlacter addresses the body. She speaks about her trip to D.C. where she led different students
14 from the South side and West side of Chicago. She learned about an experience that showed her
15 an inclusive Illinois. She does not think that Salaita was respectful in his actions. She believes
16 that to have an Inclusive Illinois there needs to be respect. Public comment is extended 30
17 minutes. Noah Feingold addresses the body. He speaks about the Inclusive Illinois and how he
18 took the pledge for Inclusive Illinois. He reads the pledge aloud to the body. He challenges
19 everyone to take the pledge and to stand with the university as one campus. Ahmad Mamdan
20 addresses the body. He says that he is here to talk to the senators. He demands that someone
21 creates a solution to reinstate Salaita. The students want a reinstatement of Steven Salaita. He
22 says that the student senate should create a resolution and for them to take action on this issue.
23 Stanley Dayan addresses the body. He is in support of Chancellor Wise's decision. He brings out
24 an email about the snow day incident and Inclusive Illinois. He quotes Salaita's tweets and talks
25 about how he does not belong in Inclusive Illinois. He continues to read from the email. He
26 relates the email to Salaita's tweets. Dora Valkanova addresses the body. She is originally from
27 Bulgaria. She speaks about how her friends and family were fired for speaking uncivilly when
28 she was younger. She was surprised that the U.S. has the first amendment. This case brought up
29 memories from her childhood. She feels that the decision is against what she has learned about
30 freedom of speech. Raquel Escobar addresses the body. She speaks about Inclusive Illinois and
31 diversity. She states that this is the reason she came here, but the Salaita issue goes against what
32 this means. She does not think that the chancellor is acting on the best behalf of her and the
33 student body. She urges that they take action. Jade Bettine addresses the body. She speaks out
34 about how she is Jewish and that she does not feel protected or respected. She is nervous that she
35 will not be able to speak freely in class. Peter Wright addresses the body. He agrees with many
36 other speakers. He respects the diversity, but he now feels unsafe to speak about his beliefs.
37 Andrew () addresses the body. He is teaching Rhet 105 this semester. He speaks about how not
38 all the students understand the opposition. He talks about international students speaking about
39 censorship laws and how they do not understand this issue. The university has not spoken on the
40 issues that Salaita talked about, and they completely neglected his scholarly ability. Eman
41 Ghanagem addresses the body. She speaks about the fact that the professor she was supposed to
42 work with was not hired based on diversity. She explains that she was not accepted her first year
43 she applied for her graduate program. She is never protected, and she is considered uncivil and
44 unworthy. She says that this is a matter of conscious. Tal Charnes addresses the body. He speaks



1 about not wanting to be judged and that Steven Salaita speaks against who he is. He wants a
2 diverse and Inclusive Illinois. Brandon () addresses the body. He speaks about his studies and he
3 wants to see peace in his lifetime. He commends President Dickey for bringing these two divided
4 groups together. He knows the tweets were offensive, but we all have done the same at some
5 point and on some level. He tried to create a resolution from everyone he has talked to. The issue
6 has gained national attention. He encourages peaceful conversation about this issue. He
7 recommends that there are guidelines to what is appropriate to post online. Students want to see
8 an official vote and decision on this issue. He would like both parties to come together. Public
9 Comment has ended.

10

11 **Amend/Approve Agenda**

12 Vice President Internal Sarah Hochman would like to add a Committee of the Whole. With a
13 vote of 12-8-2, this passes. The topic of discussion is Professor Salaita. President Dickey steps
14 down, and Senator Lear comes to the front in place of President Dickey. Time is set at 30
15 minutes. President Dickey addresses the body. He speaks about why the senate decided to have
16 the Committee of the Whole. He wrote a statement about the support of Chancellor Wise's
17 decision. He speaks about his reasoning and Inclusive Illinois. He states that if you apply the
18 comments made by Salaita, they are offensive to any group on campus, African American,
19 LGBT, etc. Dickey thinks that it was the proper decision to revoke the hiring of Salaita. He talks
20 about how Salaita was welcomed to the campus and the steps that were taken during the hiring
21 process. He believes that people have a right to be upset, but we need to support the idea that in
22 classrooms and on campus students need to be respected. Senator Seymour asks how this is a
23 time sensitive issue. President Dickey believes this is a time sensitive issue because the senate
24 has been asked to make a statement. He thinks that it is the appropriate time to do so. Ahmad
25 Mamdan addresses the body. He explains that Steven Salaita was not fired on basis of his tweets.
26 Vice President External Matt Hill addresses the body. He states that this issue has divided the
27 student body on all levels. He urges students to commit to Inclusive Illinois if you decide to act
28 on it. It is not just a word. There are students that feel threatened, and students are making valid
29 points. He encourages students to stop by his office to come talk to him throughout the year.
30 Stephanie Skora addresses the body. He is involved with Inclusive Illinois. Last year he worked
31 closely with a director of Inclusive Illinois. He agrees with External Vice President Hill's
32 statements about not just using Inclusive Illinois as a word but to emerge yourself in it. He can
33 say that the issue of Salaita is against Inclusive Illinois. There are directors that believe Salaita
34 should be at the University of Illinois. He addresses the tweets that were made by Salaita. They
35 were taken out of context and they were not meant violently or as hate words. They were not
36 anti-Semitic. Senator Bass addresses the body. He respectfully disagrees with the previous
37 comments. He believes in the Inclusive Illinois ideas and beliefs. He applauds President
38 Dickey's report, and he supports Chancellor Wise's decision. He thinks that people did not listen
39 to Chancellor Wise. Inclusive Illinois starts at the student level he states. He encourages
40 everyone to respect the decision and that it is important we move on from this issue. Shawn
41 Gordon addresses the body. He suggests that the senate does not pass anything that supports the
42 decision. He asks that they do not take a stance on this position because he believes that the
43 students do not have the whole story. They do not know that the hiring process has been ended or
44 just stalled. He does not think that we as students can take a position at this moment. Noah



1 Feingold addresses the body. He wants to echo what President Dickey, External Vice President
2 Hill, and Senator Bass said. He believes we should move on. He empathizes with the new
3 senators and says that moving forward is the best option. No student should have to feel afraid of
4 what they believe in when they are in a class. Senator William Lynch asks what the discussion is
5 specifically about. Senator Lear clarifies that it is about Professor Salaita in general. In a vote 11-
6 7, time is extended 20 minutes. Rico Chenyek addresses the body. He encourages everyone to
7 read the tweets and think about what context they are in. He believes that Chancellor Wise's
8 comments are contradictory. He thinks that she is untrustworthy. There is a worldwide boycott to
9 not apply to our campus or wear our apparel. Senator Hellman addresses the body. She speaks
10 out about being aware about what you post on social media. Senator Baalman asks what will
11 happen after this discussion is over and if this will be moving anywhere. He urges that there be a
12 recess so that the body is not aimlessly arguing. External Vice President Hill makes a movement
13 to endorse President Dickey's letter. Senator Lynch disagrees with the conclusion Dickey makes
14 about academic freedom. He thinks they should not endorse the report with that conclusion.
15 Senator Seymour agrees with Senator Lynch's statement. Senator Lewis advises everyone to take
16 a step back. He wants people to see it in a different point of view. He encourages people to
17 reconsider what they said and are arguing. Senator Bass asks if it is possible to move this
18 discussion and resolution to a different day. Senator Scanlan believes there should be another
19 draft written because of the mistakes in the letter. Ryan Brown addresses the body. This is not a
20 Jewish issue, this is a matter of hiring an unprofessional professor. Professor Salaita does not
21 reflect the values of this university. Senator Chris states that the draft needs to be rewritten.
22 There is a vote to extend time by 10 minutes in general debate, 13-10, this passes. Senator Lynch
23 addresses the body with the amendment. There is no objection to move immediately to a vote. In
24 a vote 16-2-1, this passes. Senator Seymour states that they want the amendment to be
25 transferred to the Committee on Campus Affairs. Senator Lynch believes that while this is fresh
26 in our minds, there should be a statement released. Senator Seymour believes this should be sent
27 to committee because there will be more time to revise the letter. Senator Lynch notes that it is a
28 letter from one person and it is perfectly sufficient for information purposes. Vice President
29 External Matt Hill thinks sending it to a committee is dangerous because he does not want to lose
30 what President Dickey wrote. Rahul Vasanth states that he understands that we are all busy and
31 this decision should not be taken lightly. This decision will have far reaching implications. There
32 is no clear decision coming from the Senate at this moment. Senator Chris clarifies the vote.
33 There is a move to a vote. In a vote of 10-11, time does not extend. Senator Seymour restates his
34 amendment. In a vote of 15-1-6, the amendment is adopted. The report is moved out of the
35 Committee of the Whole. The Committee of the Whole met on the 3rd of September.
36

37 **Adjournment**

38 It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. President Dickey adjourned the meeting at
39 10:16 PM.

40
41 Respectfully Submitted,

42
43

Maggie Klinge, Illinois Student Senate Clerk

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STUDENT SENATE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

ILLINOIS STUDENT SENATE ELEVENTH ASSEMBLY

EXO.2015.09 Committee Appointments 3

Whereas, The President has duly nominated the following individuals to serve on the indicated committees pursuant to the ISS Constitution, therefore;

Resolved, That the following persons be approved for service on the indicated committee.

11	1. Sub- Committee on Environmental Sustainability	41	2. Amogha Ravindra
12		42	
13		43	7. Public Relations
14	1. Sarah Batterson	44	
15	2. Gina Gonnella	45	1. Akshaya Iyengar
16		46	2. Jaclyn
17	2. Sub-Committee on Student Rights and Campus Safety	47	3. Cassidy Williams
18		48	4. Kayla Burns
19		49	5. Brea Thompson
20	1. Melinda Vitalis	50	
21	2. Yeong Keong Lee	51	8. Internal Affairs
22	3. Sub-Committee on Cultural, International, and Minority Student Affairs	52	
23		53	1. Phillip Brubaker
24		54	2. Yanran Li
25		55	
26	1. Ian Reeves	56	9. Financial Affairs
27	2. Muhammad Syed	57	
28	4. Academic Affairs	58	1. Sachin Reddy
29		59	2. Ahmed Radwan
30	1. Collin Schumoc	60	
31	2. Isabella Jackson	61	9. Sub-Committee on Graduate and Professional Affairs
32	5. Campus Affairs	62	
33		63	
34	1. Akshat Khajuria	64	1. Juan Bernal
35	2. Isabella Mazzulla	65	2. Calvin Lear
36		66	3. William J. Lynch
37	6. Community and Governmental Affairs	67	4. Fang Hsien Yi
38		68	5. Mike Dow
39		69	6. Sarah Hocman
40	1. Andres Velarde	70	7. Kevin Seymour



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1 Thus done and signed, this day, thirty-first day of August, two-thousand and fourteen,
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6

7 Mitch Dickey
8 President
9 Illinois Student Senate

Matt Hill
Vice-President External
Illinois Student Senate

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11
12
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14 Sarah Hochman
15 Vice-President Internal
16 Illinois Student Senate
17

Scott Grubczak
Treasurer
Illinois Student Senate



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EXO.2015.10 Executive Staff Appointments 3

Resolved, that the following persons be submitted for appointment to the corresponding executive positions, with terms of service beginning immediately and lasting its duration until the 2014 – 2015 academic year upon the signature of this Executive Order:

Executive Assistant to the President:

Andrianna Kurzenberger

Executive Assistant to the Vice-President External:

Arushi Sardana

Executive Assistant to the Vice-President Internal:

Carline Breckenfelder

Executive Assistant to the Chief of Staff:

Kaity Spangler

Thus done and signed, this day, twenty-fourth day of August, two-thousand and fourteen,

Mitch Dickey
President
Illinois Student Senate

Matt Hill
Vice-President External
Illinois Student Senate

Sarah Hochman
Vice-President Internal
Illinois Student Senate

Scott Grubczak
Treasurer
Illinois Student Senate



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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Executive Meeting Minutes

Sunday, August 31, 2014

5:00 PM

Executive Officers Present: President Mitch Dickey, Vice-President External Matt Hill, Vice President-Internal Sarah Hochman
Executive Staff Present: Dean Gozum
Guests Present: Vishal Disawar

Call to Order

An Executive Meeting of the Illinois Student Senate was called to order at 5:07 PM, President Dickey presiding.

Welcome

President Dickey welcomed all present.

Guest Comment

- a. Vishal Disawar: immigration to get out vote.

Agenda for Weekly Meeting

- a. Chancellor Wise
- b. President Dickey change name of executive order.

Agenda for Weekly Meeting

The agenda for the next meeting was set and approved.

Old Business

- a. Vice President External Hill, Vice President Internal Hochman, and President Dickey discusses Staff Appointments. Social Media Manager. Press secretary. Suggesting Audio Visual Specialist. Director of Communication.

New Business

- b. Vice President Internal Hochman discusses about swearing in new senators
- c. President Dickey will email, by the end of September, of the new senator applications. Senator retreat.
- d. Vice President External Hill; suggests to change Fall Retreat time to 10:30 AM instead of 11 AM. Send email of new update on Fall Retreat time. Exec board wants to solidify retreat information by Monday. Treasurer Grubscak is in charge of foods for Illinois Student Senate Fall Retreat.
- e. President Dickey: talks to the executive board about the emergency procedure. President Dickey in need of back up coordinators. President Dickey appointed Vice President External Hill and Vice President Internal Hochman as backup coordinator. Plan next week to discuss in further details. President Dickey stated that Illinois Student Senate is not appointing any GPAC, Greek life, and Athletics sub-committee chairs at the given time.
- f. Committee Appointments and Staff Appointments. Shared with new chairs. President Dickey made a list of all newly elected committee chairs.

Officer and Staff Announcements

- a. Chief of Staff Gozum: Thanking exec board for opportunity!
- b. Treasurer Grubczak: was not present.
- c. Vice President Internal Hochman: Emailing Rhonda of printer access. Asks of SSC. Sample resolution website. Asks how long ABS report needs to be. Email senator absences. Discuss office supplies. Tenor Unit Advisor committee. Parliamentary email to ACES
- d. Vice-President External Hill: City council liason applications. Email Rhonda. Touch briefly of



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1 the inclusive Illinois rep. Email appointed rep. Each student affairs needs it.

2 e. President Dickey: Nothing to speak on.

3 **Adjournment**

4 There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:22 PM.

5